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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. On 24 April 1951, Bohumil Chytil, former member of the Commercial Section of the Czechoslovak Legation in Rome, visited the office of Josef Attas, 1 Via Toscana, Rome, accompanied by Adolphe Plachy. Plachy, residing at 20 Via de Villafranca, is a former charge d'affaires, though at what mission he did not specify. Plachy also claimed to be working for the British, who rewarded Plachy with a commercial agency in return for his defection.
2. Chytil and Plachy stated that they were interested in acquiring a quantity of 5,000 tons of sulphur, either refined (in powder form) or unrefined. Although they did not indicate its destination, they indicated that the sulphur was being acquired by them on behalf of Jan Pauliny-Toth, residing at the Regina Hotel in Rome.
3. Attas is attempting to obtain the sulphur requested by Plachy. The latter has also expressed interest in blister copper from Turkey, although he stated that electrolytic copper would be of even greater interest to his "clients".

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5. Placy discussed at some length about the innumerable possibilities of the Swedish market, stating that the Swedish metallurgical industry is highly developed, and that the Swedish Government makes very little effort to impede the sale of its products to the satellite countries. Particularly desired by the latter are ball bearings of the SKF works. These, until recently, were shipped to the satellite countries by sea to Antwerp and thence across Eastern Germany. Not long ago, however, a ball bearing shipment worth \$2,000,000 was intercepted in Western Germany on its way east. Since then, the route has been changed, and most shipments are made via Finland, where the Soviet authorities are in a position to insure their unobstructed passage.
6. Sweden also produces other items which are much in demand by the satellite countries, including precision tools, airplane engines, railway equipment, munitions, and optical products.

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7. Flachy also mentioned that the Belgian market is another area from which the satellite countries can obtain many needed products, such as rails, locomotives, metal bridges, elevators, excavators, and munitions. The Belgian chemical industry works almost exclusively for the Cominform bloc. Shipments are made by way of Western Germany, or by sea to Baltic ports.
8. A third country of use to the satellite countries is Spain, which is forced to sell where it can in order, in return, to obtain food for its population. Spain, therefore exports valuable minerals (including uranium), bauxite, and cork.

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